

Letter to Vakil;

Dear Sir, Thank you for your letter of 9.7.52. We received the message of the High Court Judgment in "the Kanchinai Attempt at murder case appeal", with a mixed feeling of pleasure and pain.

We are very sorry to hear of the order passed on Nallakannu and Samba confirming the sentences already awarded to them by the Sessions, and at the same time happy to learn that many of us have been given some benefit.

We can not claim the verdict to be an utter disappointment to us. what we exactly expected was a reasonable reduction in the term of their conviction. So, we are neither shocked nor surprised at the adverse outcome.

Despite the fact that we could not get cent per cent success in our earnest endeavour, the net achievement is in no way a discouraging factor for us. In this connection, we deeply appreciate your valuable service and warmly greet you for the same.

We are profoundly grateful Mr. S. Krishnamurthy, who is taking keen interest in all our cases from the very beginning itself.

According to your instructions, I am furnishing the following Particulars for information and necessary action.

"Mayuram Conspiracy Case" (S/o N 8 of 1951 on the file of the P.S.T. Mayuram) is pending in High Court. Nine are accused, including Nallakannu, Samba and myself and sentenced each to 3 years R.I.

So far we have spent more than a year and three months in jail, since the date of judgment. In addition to this period of imprisonment, all the accused were kept in ~~the~~ custody at remand prisoners for more than a year, on the ground of our bail application was rejected by the trying Magistrate when the preliminary enquiry was in progress.

Soon after the judgment copy was available, serious efforts were taken in the High Court, with a view to secure our interim release on bail, pending appeal before the District Judge. In the end, this move too met with failure.

Then, the District Sessions upheld the findings of the Convicting Court and confirmed the sentences.

Mr. S. Krishnamurthy, who appeared before the P.S.T. Mayuram and argued this case, assured us that he would take up the responsibility of contesting it in the High Court. Having our unshakable ~~long~~ hope on his words, we do not strain ourselves in this matter.

However, we have no knowledge of the consequent developments in this subject. Now, we sincerely believe that a revision petition or an appropriate application might have been filed in the High Court, as it was his intention to do so. If that has been done, well and good. Otherwise, please, let us know what further steps you propose to do, of course, in consultation with him, in this regard.

My friends insist upon me to draw your attention mainly to this case, in preference to the rest, as it involves comparatively a long list of persons, several of them having no other case and request you to do the needful, at your earliest convenience.

There is one more case against Samba. He was charged under different sections of the Explosive Substances Act and alleged to have been in possession of a Country bomb illegally. For the said crime, he was separately sentenced to 3 years R.I. and this conviction is to run consecutively. Concerned records are with Mr. S. Krishnamurthy. We wish to bring this also to your notice.

At present, I have no other case except Conspiracy Case. Previously I was acquitted from Mannarkudy Decoy Case and recently from Varghese Case. The term of imprisonment conferred on me in two other cases, have expired a few days back.

Only two accused in Mannarkudy Case, Sirangudi Nataraj and Chittaimoon Natarajan, two of the poor Harijan peasants, could not secure the assistance of worthy persons in standing sureties to them, and the remaining people have gone out on bail.

Central Jail, Salem
23rd July 1952

To, Mohan Sumaramangalam, M.A., Barrister-at-Law
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Yours
M. G.